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CONTINUATION OF PREPARATIONS FOR THE EIGHTH UNITED NATIONS CONGRESS ON THE PREVENTION OF CRIME AND THE TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS

Report of the Secretary-General

*E/AC.57/1990/1.

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I. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders have increased in importance, and consequently the resolutions and recommendations adopted at them have gained a strengthened political base for their implementation. The Committee may wish to suggest ways of further encouraging this trend at the Eighth Congress, as well as the means of ensuring adequate follow-up to the Congress within the United Nations system and at the country level.

2. The Secretariat has completed one more phase of the preparations for the Congress. With the eleventh session of the Committee, this process enters the final stage leading to the Congress itself. In view of the tasks already accomplished, and in spite of persisting financial limitations, there appears to be ground for optimism concerning both the substantive and organizational preparations for the Eighth Congress, and the outcome of this major event.

3. As the preparatory body for the Eighth Congress, the Committee will wish to review the substantive and organizational activities outlined in the present report, bearing in mind both the limited time and resources available, and to make appropriate proposals and recommendations, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions.

II. BACKGROUND

4. The General Assembly, in its resolution 32/60 and the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1979/19 entrusted the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control, inter alia, with the preparation of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders.

5. The Committee considered the subject at its ninth session, and recommended a draft resolution on the subject 1/ for adoption by the Economic and Social Council.

6. The Council, in its decision 1986/129, took note of the draft resolution and postponed action until its first regular session of 1987. Meanwhile, the General Assembly, in its resolution 41/107, reaffirmed the importance of the United Nations Congress and of their adequate and timely preparations by the Secretary-General and by Member States.

7. The Council, by its resolution 1987/49, adopted, with minor amendments, the draft resolution recommended by the Committee, approving the provisional agenda for the Eighth Congress. The Council's recommendations were endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 42/59 of 30 November 1987.

8. The Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1988/44, invited the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control to give priority attention, at its tenth session, to reviewing the progress made in the preparations for the Eighth Congress, and to make specific recommendations thereon to the Council at its first regular session of 1989.

9. At its tenth session, the Committee took note of the report of the Secretary-General (E/AC.57/1988/14), examined the recommendations made by the interregional preparatory meetings (A/CONF.144/IPM.1-5) and reviewed the proposed draft instruments. The Committee recommended for adoption by the Council a draft resolution. 2/

10. In its resolution 43/99, the General Assembly took note, inter alia, of the recommendations formulated by the Committee (A/43/572), and invited the Council to give priority attention to these at its first regular session of 1989.

11. At its first regular session of 1989, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 1989/69, as recommended by the Committee. 2/ In it the Council took note of the reports of the five interregional preparatory meetings, endorsing the recommendations contained therein and recommending that the regional meetings consider them in depth and make specific comments concerning the proposed draft instruments.

12. In its resolution 44/72 of 8 December 1989, the General Assembly reiterated its invitation to Governments to participate actively in the preparations for the Eighth Congress. The Assembly urged Member States to contribute to the two workshops to be held at the Congress, requested the Eighth Congress to pay particular attention to the interlinkages between illicit drug trafficking, organized crime and terrorism, called for strengthened international co-operation in crime prevention, and requested the Secretary-General to ensure that the substantive and organizational work of the Congress was fully adequate for its successful outcome.

13. Further steps to be taken in relation to the organization of the Eighth Congress are outlined and actions that the Committee might wish to take at its eleventh session for follow-up by the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1990 are brought to its attention.

III. SUBSTANTIVE PREPARATIONS FOR THE EIGHTH CONGRESS

A. Theme

14. In its resolution 1989/69, the Council decided that the theme for the Eighth Congress should be "International co-operation in crime prevention and criminal justice for the twenty-first century". This theme is a reminder not only that transnational criminality has become one of the most pressing problems for contemporary society but also that the Congress will have to recommend bold world-wide initiatives to strengthen international collaboration and joint action in crime prevention and criminal justice.

B. Regional preparatory meetings

15. Five regional preparatory meetings were convened in 1989, the reports of which are before the Committee (A/CONF.144/PM.1-5). Their aims were to facilitate the exchange of views and experiences on the various issues to be discussed by the Eighth Congress, to identify the main concerns and priorities of the countries of the five regions, and to permit a review by government representatives of the recommendations made by the interregional meetings, as endorsed by the Committee. They were attended by over 600 participants, representing 129 Member States, a large number of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, relevant specialized agencies and United Nations bodies, the regional commissions and the interregional and regional crime prevention institutes. High-level delegations participated in the meetings, including ministers of justice and of the interior, prosecutors-general, attorneys-general, supreme court judges, members of parliament, senior officials and distinguished members of the academic community, as well as a great number of observers of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

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16. The meetings were convened in the following order:

(a) The Asia and Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting, held from 10 to 14 April 1989 at the headquarters of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), at Bangkok, organized in co-operation with the regional commission and with the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, and attended by representatives of 22 Member States;

(b) The European Regional Preparatory Meeting, held from 24 to 28 April 1989, at Finlandia House, Helsinki. The Government of Finland acted as host to the Meeting, which was organized in close co-operation with the Helsinki Institute for Crime Prevention and Control, affiliated with the United Nations. It was attended by 29 Member States;

(c) The Latin American and Caribbean Regional Preparatory Meeting, held from 8 to 12 May 1989 at the headquarters of the United Nations Latin American Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders at San José, Costa Rica, and organized in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the Institute. Twenty-four Governments participated in the meeting;

(d) The Western Asia Regional Preparatory Meeting, held from 27 to 31 May 1989 at the Police Academy, Cairo, and organized in co-operation with the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), with the Government of Egypt as host. It was attended by a great number of policy makers and senior officials of the host Government, 13 delegations of Member States and by observers for the Arab Security Studies and Training Centre (ASSTC);

(e) The African Regional Preparatory Meeting, held at the headquarters of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) at Addis Ababa, from 5 to 9 June 1989, and organized in co-operation with the Organization of African Unity (OAU), ECA and the new African Regional Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders. The meeting was attended by representatives of 41 Member States.

17. In accordance with paragraph 11 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/49, the Chairman of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control appointed the following experts to serve as consultants on behalf of the Committee and as resource persons at the regional preparatory meetings: Minoru Shikita (Japan) for the Asia and Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting; Simone Andrée Rozès (France) for the European Regional Preparatory Meeting; Adolfo Luis Tamini (Argentina) for the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Preparatory Meeting; Farouk Murad (Saudi Arabia) for the Western Asia Regional Preparatory Meeting; and Albert Metzger (Sierra Leone) for the African Regional Preparatory Meeting.

18. As indicated in the reports, the basic approach to the five substantive items, as recommended by the Committee and outlined in the reports of the interregional meeting of experts, was strongly supported at all five regional meetings, notwithstanding the political, socio-economic, cultural and legal differences between them. In particular, the regional meetings endorsed the recommendations and draft instruments submitted to them, subject to the suggestions and observations contained in the corresponding reports.

19. The Committee will wish to pay particular attention to the recommendations of the regional meetings, contained in their resolutions and proposed draft resolutions for the Eighth Congress, especially with regard to the proposed follow-up action.

C. Further elaboration of recommendations and draft instruments

20. Taking into account the comments made by the Committee at its tenth session, 2/ and the observations and proposed amendments brought forward at the regional preparatory meetings (A/CONF.144/RPM.1-5), the recommendations and draft instruments of the interregional meetings have been thoroughly reviewed by the Secretariat.

21. Every effort has been made to consider the additional comments by Governments, members of the Committee and relevant non-governmental organizations and individual experts. The Committee may, accordingly, wish to examine the revised drafts, contained in addenda to the present report, which include the reformulated versions of the recommendations and draft instruments to be submitted to the Eighth Congress under each of the five substantive topics.

22. Approval by the Committee, all the draft instruments will be submitted to the Congress through the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1990, as recommendations of the Committee in its capacity as the preparatory body. The Committee may wish to provide the Congress with directives for its consideration of the report of its Sub-Committee charged with providing an overview of world crime problems and assessing the most efficient means of furthering practical international action in support of Member States, in accordance with paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 44/72. The Committee may also wish, in accordance with the recommendations made at the regional meetings, to designate a pledging day for contributions by Member States, on the occasion of the Eighth Congress, to the United Nations Trust Fund for Social Defence.

23. In the same resolution, the General Assembly requested the Eighth Congress to give urgent attention to strengthened international co-operation in crime prevention and criminal justice, including the role of criminal law in environmental protection, and to pay particular attention to the interlinkages between illicit drug trafficking, organized crime and terrorist criminal activities, under items 3 and 5 of its provisional agenda, respectively.

24. The Committee may also wish to review the various agenda items in relation to the proposed recommendations and the related documentation, in the light of the most recent General Assembly resolutions that are relevant to the substantive items of the Congress.

D. Follow-up to the recommendations of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control

25. In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/62, a draft model treaty on the prevention of offences against the cultural patrimony of nations has been prepared, in close collaboration with the United Nations Latin American Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders and the Department of Cultural Patrimony of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), and with the assistance of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute* and the other regional institutes. The draft, which received positive comments at a meeting on the protection of cultural property, organized in November 1989 by the International Institute of Higher Studies in the Criminal Sciences and the Council of Europe, will be submitted to the Committee as a conference room paper for further action.

*Formerly the United Nations Social Defence Research Institute.

26. In pursuance of the recommendation of the Committee reflected in Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/57, a handbook for practitioners on the implementation of the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power (General Assembly resolution 40/34) has been prepared in close co-operation with the Helsinki Institute for Crime Prevention and Control, affiliated with the United Nations. The final product will be submitted to the Eighth Congress through the Committee at its eleventh session.

27. In accordance with the recommendations of the interregional meeting on topic 1 (A/CONF.144/IPM.1), endorsed by the Council in its resolution 1989/69, an inventory of crime prevention measures is being prepared by the Helsinki Institute, and will be presented to the Eighth Congress in the form of a handbook for practitioners and decision-makers. Work is also in progress on a manual on corruption. A seminar on measures to prevent and control corruption among public officials will take place at The Hague in December 1989. The seminar has been organized in co-operation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands and the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development of the United Nations Secretariat. The participants will consider successful techniques for fighting corruption, and will discuss a first draft of the manual.

28. In pursuance of General Assembly resolution 43/15 on the prevention and control of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), and in close co-operation with the Global Programme on AIDS of the World Health Organization (WHO/GPA), the Secretariat has been working on a project on possible responses to prison management problems arising as a result of the presence of inmates who have tested seropositive for human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). An in-depth outline of the report will be before the Committee for further action, including the submission of a final version to the Eighth Congress. This report is to consist of three parts, dealing with: (a) the nature of the problem; (b) its scope; and (c) possible alternative responses. It is expected to be sufficiently detailed and authoritative to form the basis for the formulation of guidelines for the use of prison managers in different countries.

E. Inter-agency consultations

29. An ad hoc inter-agency meeting on the follow-up to the Seventh Congress and the preparations for the Eighth Congress was held at Vienna on 1 and 2 September 1988, immediately after the tenth session of the Committee. The aim was to identify possible areas of convergence between the programmes of the specialized agencies and the substantive topics contained in the provisional agenda for the Eighth Congress, so as to ensure comprehensive and co-ordinated coverage of the salient issues.

30. The meeting adopted several recommendations that can be found in the report of the meeting, which is before the Committee (ACC/1988/PG/12).

31. Another ad hoc inter-agency meeting, scheduled to take place immediately after the eleventh session of the Committee, will consider the following agenda:

1. Major developments since August 1988 relating to crime prevention and criminal justice activities and follow-up to the Seventh Congress recommendations.

2. The adequacy of resources for international co-operation in crime prevention and criminal justice available to the United Nations, including the regional commissions: realities and expectations:

(a) Regional institutes;

(b) Regional commissions;

(c) Other United Nations agencies and bodies;

(d) Governments;

(e) Non-governmental and other organizations;

(f) Financing technical co-operation projects: special types of services in crime prevention and criminal justice, resources and needs.

3. Human rights and criminal justice: latest developments on a common ground.

4. Preparations for the Eighth United Nations Congress: results of the regional preparatory meetings and further action required.

F. Co-operation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations

32. The role of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in the preparation of the United Nations congresses, the diffusion and application of their conclusions and recommendations, and the implementation of the United Nations programme in crime prevention and criminal justice has been acknowledged repeatedly.

33. Several other relevant meetings were held in the period under consideration, in pursuance of paragraph 4 of the Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/44:

(a) The International Penal and Penitentiary Foundation organized a meeting on the draft standard minimum rules for the implementation of non-custodial sanctions and measures involving restrictions of liberty. This meeting was held from 8 to 12 October 1988 at Groningen, the Netherlands;

(b) A symposium on the prevention of delinquency was organized in co-operation with the Pan Arab Organization for Social Defence against Crime and the Social Security Fund of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. The symposium, which took place at Tripoli from 10 to 13 October 1988, unanimously adopted the Tripoli Plan of Action for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency;

(c) A conference on the independence of judges and lawyers was convened by the International Commission of Jurists at Caracas from 16 to 18 January 1989, under the auspices of the United Nations. The Conference adopted the Caracas Plan of Action, aimed at providing support for the efforts of the United Nations in favour of the independence and impartiality of the judiciary;

(d) The International Association of Penal Law and the International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences, in co-operation with the Police Academy of the Egyptian Ministry of the Interior, organized an international meeting on the implementation of the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power (General Assembly resolution 40/34), at Cairo, from 22 to 25 January 1989;

(e) In co-operation with the Government of Italy, the four major non-governmental organizations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, namely the International Association of Penal Law, the International Society for Criminology, the International Society of Social Defence and the International Penal and Penitentiary Foundation, convened a colloquium on topic 3 of the Eighth Congress, "Effective national and international action against: (a) organized crime; (b) terrorist criminal activities". The colloquium, which was organized by the Centro Nazionale di Prevenzione e Difesa Sociale, took place at Bellagio, Italy, from 2 to 5 May 1989, with a follow-up meeting held at Siracusa. The four organizations submitted a statement to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1989 (E/1989/NGO/5), in which they called upon the United Nations to intensify its relations with non-governmental organizations and to establish at an early date the advisory professional and scientific council in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice that had been called for by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council in successive resolutions;

(f) The Office of International Criminal Justice of the University of Illinois at Chicago, in co-operation with the National Institute of Justice of the United States and the International Centre for Penal, Sociological and Penitentiary Research and Studies at Messina, organized an international conference on organized crime and terrorism, as a contribution to the preparation for topic 3 of the Eighth Congress. The conference took place at Chicago from 11 to 15 September 1989;

(g) In collaboration with the European Co-ordination Centre for Research and Documentation in Social Sciences in Vienna, and with funding from the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, a conference on the role of criminal justice in the protection of the environment was held at Hamburg from 14 to 17 September 1989, at which various cases of pollution and environmental disasters were analysed. The Conference concluded that criminal law should be used appropriately, as a last resort, when public condemnation of acts harmful to the biosphere was required for the common good. The recommendations of the Conference, which relate to topic 1 of the Eighth Congress, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/62, are being brought to the attention of the Committee for suitable follow-up;

(h) A meeting of European Heads of Prison Administration was held, under United Nations auspices, at Messina and Rome, from 6 to 12 November 1989. The meeting - organized in co-operation with the Ministry of Justice of Italy, the International Centre of Sociological, Penal and Penitentiary Research and Studies, the Henry Dunant Institute and the Helsinki Institute - considered topics 2 and 5 of the Eighth Congress from a prison administration perspective. It formulated recommendations for submission to the Committee and the Congress;

(i) From 27 November to 1 December 1989, the Department of Justice of Canada will act as host at Ottawa to an international meeting of experts to discuss the structure of the demonstration workshop on the computerization of criminal justice administration, to be held at the Eighth Congress. The meeting is expected to finalize the programme of the workshop, including the manual on computerization, and a long-term plan for the computerization of criminal justice administration in developing and developed countries, underlining the role that the United Nations should play.

34. It is expected that non-governmental organizations will continue the established practice of providing scientific input to the substantive work for the Eighth Congress, and special efforts will be made to benefit from their valuable involvement in both the Congress and post-Congress activities.

IV. ORGANIZATIONAL PREPARATIONS FOR THE EIGHTH CONGRESS

A. Date and venue

35. As decided by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1989/69, the Eighth Congress will be held from 27 August to 7 September 1990, with two days of pre-Congress consultations. As the invitation extended by the Government of Cuba to act as host to the Congress was accepted by the Council in its decision 1989/134, the Eighth Congress will be held at the Palacio de Convenciones at Havana. The host country agreement is expected to be signed in the near future. In accordance with the Guidelines on the Organization of Special Conferences, contained in General Assembly resolution 35/10 C, a national committee is being established by the host country, under the chairmanship of its Minister of Justice, to serve as a focal point for local arrangements.

B. Role of the Secretary-General of the Eighth Congress

36. In her capacity as Secretary-General of the Eighth Congress, as designated by the Secretary-General of the United Nations (see document A/44/572, paragraph 26), the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna was able not only to attend most of the regional preparatory meetings, but also to carry out consultations on Congress preparations with host Governments and delegations of participating countries.

C. Appointment of the Executive Secretary

37. In accordance with established practice, the Secretary-General of the Eighth Congress appointed the Chief of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, United Nations Office at Vienna, as Executive Secretary of the Eighth Congress.

D. Allocation of funds

38. The estimated requirements in the biennium 1990-1991 for convening the Congress were included in the proposed programme budget for that biennium, for approval by the Assembly at its forty-fourth session. 5/ Additional estimates were presented to the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly (document A/C.5/44/5).

E. Pre-Congress consultations

39. In accordance with the established practice for major United Nations conferences, and in pursuance of paragraph 12 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/69, the Eighth Congress will be preceded by two days of pre-Congress consultations open to all participating States. The purpose is to reach agreement on the recommendations to be made on all procedural and organizational matters to be dealt with by the Congress on the opening day, such as the election of officers and composition of the General Committee, the distribution of posts among the regional groups in the General Committee, the adoption of the agenda and organization of work, the appointment of members of the Credentials Committee and the arrangements for the preparation of the report of the Congress.

F. Organization of work

40. The Council, in its resolution 1987/49, had decided that item 3 of the provisional agenda (topic 1) should be considered in plenary meeting, the remaining items to be dealt with by two main committees. That decision was

reiterated and amplified in resolution 1989/69, paragraph 8, in which the Council decided that item 3 should serve as an umbrella topic, under which Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations could exchange experiences and examine problems encountered and successes achieved in international co-operation in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice.

41. Pursuant to both resolutions, and keeping in mind the fact that the structure of the Eighth Congress is similar to that of the Seventh Congress, provision for interpretation services has been made for a maximum of six meetings a day - three simultaneous meetings in the morning and three in the afternoon. Interpretation services for working groups and other meetings should be accommodated within that framework. Accordingly, it is proposed that meetings be allocated as follows:

Opening of the Congress, adoption of the report and closing ceremony	3 plenary meetings
Item 3 (topic 1) - Crime prevention and criminal justice in the context of development: realities and perspectives of international co-operation	11 plenary meetings
Workshop 1	2 plenary meetings
Workshop 2	2 plenary meetings
Lectures	(1 plenary meeting (2 Committee meetings
Item 4 (topic 2) - Criminal justice policies in relation to problems of imprisonment, other penal sanctions and alternative measures	8 meetings of Committee I
Item 6 (topic 4) - Prevention of delinquency, juvenile justice and the protection of the young: policy approaches and directions	8 meetings of Committee I
Item 5 (topic 3) - Effective national and international action against: (a) organized crime; (b) terrorist criminal activities	8 meetings of Committee II
Item 7 (topic 5) - United Nations norms and guidelines in crime prevention and criminal justice: implementation and priorities for further standard-setting	8 meetings of Committee II

For a draft time-table of the proposed Congress activities, see the annex.

G. Research and demonstration workshops

42. Two research and demonstration workshops will be organized, in pursuance of Economic and Social Council resolution 1986/69, paragraphs 9 and 10. The

General Assembly, in its resolution 44/72, paragraph 16, urged Member States to contribute to the two workshops by preparing research and technical papers and other information permitting a substantive and fruitful exchange of national experiences in these areas.

I. Research workshop on alternatives to imprisonment

43. Following the practice of previous United Nations congresses, the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute was entrusted with the responsibility for the scientific and organizational co-ordination and conduct of a research workshop on alternatives to imprisonment. The preparations have involved the active collaboration of the United Nations Secretariat, the United Nations regional institutes, ASSTC, the Australian Institute of Criminology and a number of individual experts.

44. Preparatory activities, which began in February 1987, included a series of consultations on the conceptual, methodological and organizational design of the workshop, and resulted in the adoption of a structure and programme for the workshop at the Fourth International Conference on Research in Crime Prevention, held at Riyadh on 13 and 14 January 1988, for which ASSTC acted as host. Intensive follow-up activities involving the United Nations Interregional Institute and all parties concerned continued throughout 1988 and 1989. Two expert meetings were held with the generous hospitality of the ASSTC, the first on 19 January 1989 and the second on 13-15 January 1990, to review the status of advancement and evaluate the scientific and policy implications of the results achieved.

45. The workshop will confine its activities to item 4 (topic 2) of the agenda of the Congress: "Criminal justice policies in relation to problems of imprisonment, other penal sanctions and alternative measures". The object is to provide a forum for the exchange of knowledge and experience among researchers, policy makers and administrators with a view to identifying the main tasks, implementation requirements and problems encountered in expanding the use of alternatives to imprisonment, and their effects vis-à-vis the goals of criminal justice systems and community expectations. The workshop will contribute to the deliberations on topic 2.

46. The final document to be made available to all participants in the workshop will contain:

(a) An evaluative synthesis (prepared by the United Nations Interregional Institute);

(b) Regional reports on the availability and application of alternatives to imprisonment (prepared by the institutes or individual experts);

(c) Country-based case-studies on the application of a selected alternative measure: home detention (Australia), work at liberty but under surveillance (Hungary), probation (Japan), caución juratoria (Costa Rica), Dayya-compensation (Saudi Arabia), electronic monitoring surveillance (United States of America), community service (Netherlands) and personal restitution (Nigeria). The case-studies are being prepared by individual experts appointed by the institutes;

(d) An international bibliography for the period 1980-1989 and an analytical report on research trends (prepared by the United Nations Interregional Institute).

47. The evaluative synthesis report will be distributed at the Congress as a United Nations document. A publication by the United Nations Interregional Institute, containing the workshop material and its proceedings, is envisaged for 1991.

2. Demonstration workshop on the computerization of criminal justice administration

48. In preparation for the demonstration workshop on the computerization of criminal justice administration, recommended by the Economic and Social Council in paragraph 10 of its resolution 1989/69, the Secretariat convened a planning meeting in June 1989, at Vienna, to discuss the organization and agenda of the workshop.

49. The demonstration workshop at the Congress will last five working days, during which Member States may make presentations of computer programmes designed to facilitate criminal justice operations and exchange information on specific approaches taken by Governments to this matter. It is planned to make available a show-room equipped with 10 microcomputers, printers and other peripherals, for demonstrations of criminal justice software. A one-day session to discuss relevant computer developments in Member States is also foreseen. The Helsinki Institute is co-ordinating the workshop and is drafting the relevant documents. Details will be finalized at the meeting of experts to be held at Ottawa.

50. It is expected that the workshop will generate interest in and impetus for further action at the Eighth Congress and afterwards. The use of computerization in criminal justice is a matter that has not yet been pursued in great detail. In-depth consideration is needed, covering, among other things, the role of the United Nations in helping the criminal justice community to close the technological and conceptual gaps that separate its own use of computerization from international and national developments in other social and economic fields. This initiative should substantially further national and international efforts.

H. Documentation

51. The Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1989/69, paragraph 7, approved the documentation for the Eighth Congress, as set out in annex III of the report of the Committee on its tenth session, 3/ pending its further review by the Committee at its eleventh session. Thus, the Committee may wish to examine the list and introduce such changes as it deems necessary, keeping in mind the relevant provisions related to the control and limitation of documentation for special conferences, as stated in General Assembly resolution 36/117, annex.

I. Rules of procedure

52. The Economic and Social Council, in paragraph 14 of resolution 1989/69, approved the rules of procedure for the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, adopted by the Seventh Congress (A/CONF.121/2), on the understanding that the Eighth Congress should make every effort to reach a consensus on all substantive matters.

J. Invitations and participation

53. Invitations to participate at the Eighth Congress will be extended in accordance with the relevant provisions of chapters I and XI of the rules of procedure (A/CONF.121/2).

K. Issuance of commemorative stamps

54. The United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) will issue six stamps commemorating 40 years of United Nations work in crime prevention and criminal justice, of which two will be in United States dollar denominations, two in Swiss francs and two in Austrian schillings. The designs have been chosen and the issue will soon be announced to the public.

55. Moreover, in conjunction with the stamps, a souvenir card will be issued in September 1990, on which the following statement will appear, signed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations:

> "Transnational crime presents a growing threat to individuals and societies all over the world. It must be combated through a concerted drive by the whole international community."

56. In addition, a commemorative medal will be issued on the same occasion, depicting the logo of the Eighth Congress.

L. Other activities

57. In Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/49, paragraphs 7 and 9, the Council requested the Secretary-General to include in the organization of the Eighth Congress such activities as lectures by outstanding experts and scholars, a meeting of national correspondents, ancillary meetings of non-governmental organizations and meetings of professional and geographical interest groups.

58. The Secretariat has started to look for outstanding personalities to lecture at the Congress, taking into account the need to ensure a balanced geographical representation.

59. A general meeting of national correspondents in liaison with the United Nations Secretariat is also being organized, taking into account the important and numerous functions entrusted to Government appointed national correspondents. Their participation in the Congress as members of national delegations is being encouraged.

60. Following established practice, the United Nations regional and inter-regional institutes for the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders will organize a special meeting at the Congress to discuss issues of mutual concern.

61. The Committee will recall that at previous Congresses non-governmental organizations had convened, as ancillary but independent activities, a number of meetings on issues related to the items on the agenda of the Congress, establishing a fruitful interaction between the professional and scientific community and the official discussions at the congresses. The Secretariat has contacted relevent organizations in order to determine their interest in this respect.

62. The Committee may wish to consider further the possibility of organizing different exhibits, including books, photographs and other materials of historical, social and cultural interest related to crime prevention and criminal justice.

63. It is understood that the host Government plans to issue commemorative stamps for the Congress and to organize an exhibition of posters resulting

from a country-wide competition. Similarly, UNPA intends to exhibit the entries received in response to the competition held to select designs for the stamp issues.

64. Since the conference facilities at Havana will permit the organization of such activities, special efforts will be made, with the approval of the Committee, to encourage Governments and interested organizations to hold exhibits.

M. Public information

65. The Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat has distributed to the five regional preparatory meetings a press kit containing five background pamphlets in the six official languages. The Department also provided press coverage and media liaison for all five meetings.

66. On-going activities include press, radio and television coverage of relevant United Nations meetings and events, development and cultivation of media and contacts with non-governmental organizations, the reprinting of United Nations booklets on crime control instruments and rules, the preparation of a brochure on the Eighth Congress, production of a "UN in Action" television programme, preliminary work on a new booklet entitled "The United Nations and Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice", and media interviews with United Nations representatives and officials when possible.

67. Plans for 1990 include the preparation of a new press kit for the Congress, publication of a booklet on the Organization's crime prevention and criminal justice activities, publicity related to the issuance of postage stamps by UNPA and extensive efforts to publicize the work of the Congress.

N. Secretariat support

68. Some Governments have provided short-term experts to assist the Secretariat in the substantive preparations for the Congress; others have made efforts to provide the services of some of their experts on a part-time basis. Argentina and Italy have made available the services of an expert and a junior professional officer, respectively. Some non-governmental organizations are contributing their expertise, while a number of students and young professionals have volunteered their services as interns. The Secretary-General would welcome any further contributions from Governments and interested donors.

69. Pursuant to the guidelines set by the General Assembly in its resolution 37/14 (annex, paras. 1-11), the Secretary-General of the Congress will establish a conference management committee to guide and co-ordinate all Congress-related activities. It will be composed of representatives of the Secretariat departments and offices involved in the organization of the Eighth Congress.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1986, Supplement No. 5 (E/1986/25), chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution IV.

2/ Ibid., 1988, Supplement No. 10 (E/1988/20), chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution XIV.

3/ Ibid., Supplement No. 10 (E/1988/20), annex III.

4/ Ibid., Supplement No. 10 (E/1988/20), annex IV.

5/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/44/6/Rev.1), sect. 4B, paras. 4.30-4.33.

Annex

DRAFT TIMETABLE FOR THE CONGRESS

First week

Saturday/Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	a.m.				
Pre-Congress Consultations	Plenary: Opening of Congress Organizational matters	Plenary: Topic 1 Committee I: Topic 4 Committee II: Topic 3	Plenary: Topic 1 Committee I: Topic 4 Committee II: Topic 3	Plenary: Topic 1 Committee I: Topic 4 Committee II: Topic 3	Plenary: Workshop I Committee I: Topic 2 Committee II: Topic 5
	p.m.				
	Plenary: Topic 1 Committee I: Topic 4 Committee II: Topic 3	Plenary: Topic 1 Committee I: Topic 4 Committee II: Topic 3	Plenary: Topic 1 Committee I: Topic 4 Committee II: Topic 3	Plenary: Topic 1 Committee I: Topic 4 Committee II: Topic 3	Plenary: Workshop I Committee I: Topic 4 Committee II: Topic 5

Second week

	a.m.				
	Plenary: Workshop II Committee I: Topic 2 Committee II: Topic 5	Plenary: Topic 1 Committee I: Topic 2 Committee II: Topic 5	Plenary: Topic 1 Committee I: Topic 2 Committee II: Topic 5	Plenary: Consideration of report Topic 1 Committee I: Consideration of report Topic 2 Committee II: Consideration of report Topic 5	Plenary: Adoption of report

(continued)

Annex (continued)

Saturday/Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	p.m.				
	Plenary: Workshop II Committee I: Topic 3 Committee II: Topic 5	Plenary: Topic 1 Committee I: Topic 3 Committee II: Topic 5	Plenary: National correspondence Committee I: Consideration of report Topic 4 Committee II: Consideration of report Topic 3	Plenary: Lectures Committee I: Lectures Committee II: Lectures	Plenary: Adoption of report Closure of Congress